(c) what is the expected contribution of cotton for export from Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) Cotton exports are determined keeping in view the factors such as domestic availability of raw material, trend of the prices, both domestic and international, with reference to the interests of both the cotton growers and the domestic textile industry, and the interests of the decentralised handloom and powerloom sectors. In pursuance of the decision of the Cabinet Committee on Export Strategy, the Government releases minimum 5 lakh bales of cotton for export at the commencement of every cotton season (September-August) subject to the adjustments being made after the detailed crop estimates are available. No annual target for the export of cotton for the VIII Plan Period has accordingly been fixed. Since the cotton season crop will starts from September, it is not possible to indicate the expected contribution of cotton for export from Andhra Pradesh.

Modification in Cotton Export Policy

3841. SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cotton exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom during last three years;

(b) whether there is any proposal to modify the cotton export policy;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) how the proposed modifications take care of cotton growers, handloom weavers, powerloom weavers and mill sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) The quantity of cotton exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last three years is as under:

(Qty. in lakh bales of 170 kg. each)
(Value in Million US $)

Year	Qty. exported	Foreign exchange earned
1990-91 . . .	11.90	354.60
1991-92 . . .	0.77	13.50
1992-93 . . . (upto 27-7-93)	11.93	208.40

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Export of Handicrafts to Mexico and Venezuela

3842. SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are good prospects for exports of handicrafts to Mexico and Venezuela;

(b) if so, whether a four member delegation visited these countries to study export prospects and has suggested a number of measures;

(c) if so, whether Government has considered them; and

(d) by what time they are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. A four member delegation visited Mexico and Venezuela during March 1993 to explore the possibilities of enhancing exports of handicrafts to these countries and suggested a number of measures.

(c) Yes, Sir. The recommendations of the delegations have been considered by the Government. The Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts has been requested to take necessary action on the recommendations made by the delegation.

(d) No definite time frame has been fixed for implementation of the recommendations but steps on this direction have already been initiated by the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts.